

VZCZCXRO9051
PP RUEHMA RUEHPA
DE RUEHUJA #1064 1661515
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 151515Z JUN 09
FM AMEMBASSY ABUJA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6307
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHOS/AMCONSUL LAGOS 1516

UNCLAS ABUJA 001064

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/W, INR/AA
BAGHDAD FOR DMCCULLOUGH

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [KTIP](#) [ELAB](#) [KCRM](#) [KPAO](#) [KMWN](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [SMIG](#)
NI
SUBJECT: NIGERIA: 2009 TIP REPORT DEMARCHE DELIVERED

REF: A. STATE 60565
[1](#)B. STATE 59732
[1](#)C. STATE 005577

[1](#)1. (SBU) Poloff delivered reftel country narrative of the ninth annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report to the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP). NAPTIP's Director of Investigations and Monitoring, Muhammed Babandede, and Executive Secretary, Simon Egede, were pleased with Nigeria's move to Tier 1 status. Poloff noted the "Recommendations" section of the country narrative as suggestions for continued progress and Egede expressed NAPTIP's desire for continued USG guidance, training, and assistance. Babandede said that now Nigeria's challenge will be to hold onto this elevated ranking.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Poloff also delivered reftel country narrative to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ambassador M.K. Ibrahim, Director of the Second United Nations Division, told Poloff that despite the Tier 1 ranking, more work is needed to address the root causes of trafficking. He said that where poverty and hopelessness prevail, there will always be criminal activity. He opined that the TIP report is somewhat theoretical, and worried that perhaps Nigeria only appears to have made progress, when in fact it may be that the traffickers have actually just become more sophisticated, and that their new tactics have eluded the assessment.
SANDERS